

Message Text

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TAGS: AORG, UN

SUBJ: GENEVA G-LEVEL SALARIES

REF: (A) GENEVA 5540, (B) GENEVA 5684, (C) STATE 177218

1. GENEVA GROUP MET JULY 20 AND AUTHORIZED CO-CHAIRMEN TO MAKE DEMARCHE ON WINSPEAR TO SET OUT VIEWS ALONG LINES REFS B AND C. BEFORE, THIS COULD BE DONE, HOWEVER, MISSION LEARNED THAT UNOG ADMINISTRATIVE HEAD BARBOSA HAD ALREADY INITIATED CONSULTATIONS LOOKING TOWARD DEFERRAL OF AUTOMATIC SALARY ADJUSTMENTS. IN COORDINATION WITH UK CO-CHAIRMAN US MISOFF CONVEYED TO BARBOSA STRONG FEELINGS OF GENEVA GROUP REPRESENTATIVES ON THIS QUESTION AND IS MAINTAINING CLOSE CONTACT WITH HIM AS HE CONDUCTS SERIES OF QUIET MEETINGS HERE AMONG ADMINISTRATIONS AND WITH STAFF REPRESENTATIVES. FOLLOW-UP GENEVA GROUP MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JULY 29 (A) TO ASSESS THIS SITUATION AS IT THEN STANDS AND (B) TO RETURN TO PROBLEM OF UNCTAD FINANCING OF G-77 MEETINGS AND CONSIDER FUTURE TACTICS FOR TREATING THIS.

2. BARBOSA HAS PROPOSED, AS YET INFORMALLY, TO OTHER ADMINISTRATIONS AND TO STAFF REPRESENTATIVES THAT AGREEMENT QUICKLY BE REACHED TO ADOPT PROPOSAL EARLIER PROMOTED BY STAFF REPRESENTATIVES TO HAVE ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS MADE WHEN JUSTIFIED ON BASIS

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OF CURRENT YEAR STATISTICS, RATHER THAN THREE YEAR

BASE AS IS NOW THE CASE, WITH FIRST POSSIBLE ADJUSTMENT TO OCCUR NEXT DECEMBER. HIS TACTIC ANTICIPATES THAT STAFF REPRESENTATIVES WILL RECOGNIZE, AS ADMINISTRATIONS DO, THAT FURTHER UPWARD ADJUSTMENTS OF G-LEVEL SALARIES RIGHT ON HEELS OF HIGHLY QUESTIONED SPRING SETTLEMENT COULD PROVOKE SEVERE REACTIONS.

3. COMMENT: IF ADMINISTRATIONS AND STAFF REPRESENTATIVES CAN AGREE TO SET PRESENT ISSUE ASIDE IN THIS WAY IT PROBABLY WILL REPRESENT ALSO AT LEAST TACIT AGREEMENT OF BOTH SIDES ON WISDOM OF POSTPONING ANY FURTHER GENEVA SALARY HIKES UNTIL AFTER CLOSE OF NEXT GA.ABRAMS

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